

ACC Launches Cantor-in-Residence Program for Small URJ Congregations

Have your members ever longed for an ACC Cantor? Have you ever wondered how an ACC Cantor could enhance the spiritual life of your Temple family? Here is an affordable opportunity to find out...

The Cantor-in-Residence (C-I-R) Program is a pilot, one-year plan designed to serve congregations of fewer than 250 member units.

The C-I-R program might be for your synagogue if it fits into one of these categories:

- Congregations wishing to benefit from the knowledge and experience of an ACC cantor, but unable to afford the cost of a full or part-time cantor
- Congregations that haven't engaged a cantor in the past and are considering engaging a cantor in the future
- Congregations that have had a cantor in the past and would like to maintain a cantorial presence as a decision is made about how to proceed

The ACC's objectives are:

- To provide small congregations with the rich array of liturgical, musical, educational and pastoral benefits that an ACC cantor can provide even on a limited basis
- To introduce congregations to all that the Reform cantorate can provide
- To establish more relationships between URJ congregations and the ACC

We envision this as a program in which a cantor would visit a congregation between two and eleven times during a year. These visits would generally be for a Friday to Sunday weekend.

So you ask, what would the C-I-R do for the congregation during a 2 ½ day (Friday – Sunday) weekend?

There is an array of choices. NOT EVERYTHING listed would be a weekly occurrence!

Worship* Possibilities

- ✓ Erev Shabbat
- ✓ Shabbat Minyan
- ✓ B'nei Mitzvah
- ✓ Havdalah
- ✓ Festivals
- ✓ High Holiday services (extra fee)

* Which may include preaching or teaching

Teaching Possibilities

- ✓ Sundays (Religious School, etc)
- ✓ B'nei Mitzvah tutoring
- ✓ Family Education
- ✓ Adult Classes

Programming Possibilities

- ✓ Concerts (extra fee)
- ✓ Special Liturgical/Musical Presentations
- ✓ Rehearsals with Adult Choirs, Children's Choirs or Bands

Pastoral Care Options

- ✓ Weekend hospital or home visits
- ✓ Shiva Minyanim, when possible

As this is a pilot program, we anticipate that many questions will arise as we go through the season. Consequently we plan on consulting closely as we proceed through what promises to be an exciting and forward-looking program for cantors and congregations alike. For more information about this exciting new program, please call Barbara Ostfeld at 716-568-1125.

L'shalom,

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